

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 STATE 229458

43/21

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-01

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AEC-05 IO-04 OIC-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01

TRSE-00 ACDA-05 EB-04 SCI-02 NIC-01 COME-00 /079 R

66610

DRAFTED BY: OASD/ISA:JTYLER:MEM

APPROVED BY: EUR:JGLOWENSTEIN

OSD:MG WICKHAM

ASD/ISA:RELLSWORTH

PM/ISP:LBROWN

EUR/RPM:COL. THOMPSON/EJSTREATOR

EUR/WE:EBEIGEL (INFO)

EUR/SE:NLEDSKY

C:NTERRELL

S/S:WHLUERS

----- 049855

R 181535Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ANATO

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

USDEL MC

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSANAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 229458

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (GARBLES THROUGHOUT)

E.O. 11652:GDS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 229458

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE

REF: USNATO 5132 (NTTAL)

1. FOR PARIS: YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON SUBSTANCE OF FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECDEF TO NATO DPC MOD'S FOR USE IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR COUNTRY OFFICIALS AS APPROPRIATE.

2. FOR ATHENS: WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY VIEWS ON FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES: A. DELIVER LETTER IN PRESENT FORM TO AVEROFF, B. SEND LETTER WITH COVERING NOTE FROM AMBASSADOR WHICH WOULD PUT LETTER IN GREEK PERSPECTIVE, C. PROVIDE ORAL BRIEFING TO DEFENSE MINISTRY ON LETTER'S SUBSTANCE, OR D. DO NOTHING.

3. YOR USNATO: YOU MAY MAKE TEXT AVAILABLE TO SYG LUNS FOR HIS INFORMATION. PLEASE POUCH COMPLETE TEXT OF US DISCUSSION PAPER ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE TO US DEL MBFR, VIENNA, IF NOT ALREADY FURNISHED.

4. FOR OTHER NATO CAPITALS: REQUEST EMBASSIES PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE OF OCTOBER 17, 1974, FROM SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JAMES R SCHLESINGER TO MINISTER OF DEFENSE (REYKJAVIK TO PRIME MINISTER OR MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AS APPROPRIATE).

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. MINISTER: THE UNITED STATES HAS TABLED IN NATO A DRAFT TEXT DEALING WITH KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND EMBODYING A PROPOSED LONG-RANGE CONCEPT FOR NATO DEFENSE. AMBASSADOR RUMSFELD HAS FURNISHED A COPY TO YOUR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE IN BRUSSELS.

I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH YOU THE REASONING WHICH LED TO OUR SUBMISSION.

WE SEE NATO'S SUCCESS IN ASSURING PEACE IN EUROPE SINCE WORLD WAR II AS BRINGING WITH IT A NEW GENERATION THAT KNOWS NO WAR AND QUESTIONS THE NEED FOR LARGE EXPENDITURES ON DEFENSE. WE FACE A PUBLIC THAT CHALLENGES THE UTILITY AND EVEN THE NECESSITY OF NATO DEFENSE.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 229458

WE SEE THE WARSAW PACT AS STRENGTHENING ITS MILITARY POSITION FACING NATO, EVEN IN A PERIOD OF NEGOTIATIONS ON SALT, CSCE, AND MBFR. TO MAINTAIN A CREDIBLE DETERRENT IN THIS SITUATION, WE MUST PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN NATO FORCES, ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY ON A ONE-FOR-ONE MATCHING BASIS.

WE ARE CLEARLY IN DIFFICULT ECONOMIC TIMES, WHEN WE CAN EXPECT NO MAJOR INCREASES IN DEFENSE FUNDING.

WE FACE THE CHALLENGE, THEREFORE, OF GOING BEFORE FINANCE MINISTERS AND OUR PEOPLE AND PARLIAMENTS WITH DEFENSE RESOURCE REQUESTS WHICH WILL PROVIDE AN ACCEPTABLE AND COHERENT DEFENSE AT A REASONABLE PRICE.

THESE DIFFICULTIES DID NOT ARISE OVERNIGHT AND ARE COMPLICATED BY RECENT TRENDS: THE SOVIETS HAVE STEARILY CONTINUED TO INCREASE THEIR MILITARY CAPABILITIES (E.G., SOVIET ATTAINMENT OF STRATEGIC NUCLEAR PARITY ANE THE EXPANDED DEPLOYMENT OF THE SOVIET FLEET); ALLIED COSTS FOR SUPPORTING MILITARY PERSONNEL AND PROCURING MODERN EQUIPMENT HAVE RISEN SHARPLY; AND PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS FOR IMPROVED EAST-WEST RELATIONS HAVE BEEN HEIGHTENED BY CSCE, MBFR, AND SALT NEGOTIATIONS.

IN THE ATLANTIC DECLARATION RECENTLY SIGNED BY HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS, ALLIED NATIONS PLEDGED RENEWED COMMITMENT TO COLLECTIVE SECURITY.

WE BELIEVE THAT NATO MUST NOW AGREE ON A LONG-RANG DEFENSE CONCEPT, IN SUPPORT OF THE AGREED NATO STRATEGY, WHICH WILL PERMIT US TO MEET THESE MAJOR CONCERNS AND PERMIT US TO PUT TOGETHER A STALWART CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY, AS A MAJOR PART OF THE NATO TRIAD, THAT WILL PROVIDE THE UNDERPINNING FOR THE POLITICAL STAMINA OF NATO NATIONS FOR THE LONG HAUL.

THE US DRAFT TABLED IN NATO ADDRESSES THESE CONCEPTS. IT ADDS A LONG-RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT TO THE TRADITIONAL
CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 229458

MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. IT ALSO EXPANDS THE TRADITIONAL GUIDANCE TO COVER COUNTRY AND COMMON PROGRAM EFFORTS, AS WELL AS GUIDING THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORIIIES.

AGREEMENT TO SPECIFIC LANGUAGE IN THE US DRAFT IS NOT SO IMPORTANT AS THE SERIOUS EXAMINATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE KEY ELEMENTS. WE ARE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO HAVE A THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEMS BY MINISTERS IN DECEMBER, UNDER THE AGENDA ITEM OF KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE.

WE THINK THE KEY ELEMENTS OF A DEFENSE CONCEPT FOR NATO OVER THE LONG HAUL WOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- RATIONALE FOR THE CONTINUED NEED FOR AN EFFECTIVE NATO DEFENSE;
- PROJECTION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR INCREASING RESOURCE

LEVELS, INVOLVING MARGINAL ANNUAL INCREASES IN REAL TERMS (THREE PERCENT);

- CONTINUED EMPHASIS ON CONVENTIONAL CAPABILITY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATO'S CURRENT STRATEGY;

- ATTAINMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A PERCEPTIBLE CONVENTIONAL BALANCE WITH THE WARSAW PACT WITHIN PROJECTED RESOURCE LEVELS;

- SEARCH FOR ADDITIONAL DEFENSE EFFECTIVENESS WITHIN ROUGHLY PRESENT RESOURCES THROUGH RATIONALIZATION, STANDARDIZATION, INCREASED COMMON SUPPORT PROGRAMS, AND OTHER FORMS OF COOPERATION, AND THROUGH RIGOROUS APPLICATION OF PRIORITIES IN FORCE IMPROVEMENTS;

- INCREASED FLEXIBILITY IN PLANNED USE OF NATO FORCES, BOTH THOSE FORWARD DEPLOYED AND REINFORCEMENTS.

CLEARLY, AN INDISPENSABLE PART OF THE CONCEPT WOULD BE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE MECHANISM FOR MONITORING ITS IMPLEMENTATION.

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 STATE 229458

IN SUMMARY, WE HAVE TABLED IN NATO WHAT WE CONSIDER TO BE A MAJOR PROPOSAL FOR SUPPORTING AND DIRECTING THE NATO DEFENSE EFFORT IN THE LONG TERM, AND WE HOPE THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED SERIOUSLY IN NATO COMMITTEES THIS FALL.

I LOOK FORWARD TO A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AMONG MINISTERS IN DECEMBER IN BRUSSELS ON HOW NATO CAN BEST DEAL WITH ITS DEFENSE PROBLEMS OVER THE LONG HAUL.

SINCERELY,

JAMES R. SCHLESINGER

END TEXT.

KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, POLICIES, ALLIANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE229458
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OASD/ISA:JTYLER:MEM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740298-1093
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741035/aaaabdgx.tel
Line Count: 215
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USNATO 5132 (NTTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE
TAGS: MPOL, US, NATO
To: NATO POSTS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005